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The King's Letter to the two Universities.

GEORGE R.

TRUSTY and well-beloved, we greet you well. We being greatly desirous to favour and encourage our two Universities, those ancient and laudable Nurseries of Piety and Learning, and to enable them more effectually to answer the End of their Institution, by sending forth constant Supplies of learned and able Men to serve the Publick both in Church and State; and having observed, that no Encouragement or Provision has hitherto been made in either of the said Universities for the Study of Modern History or Modern Languages, the Knowledge of which is highly necessary towards compleatly qualifying the Youth committed to their Care for several Stations both in Church and State, to which they may be called; and having seriously weighed the Prejudice that has accrued to the said Universities from this Defect, Persons of Foreign Nations being often employed in the Education and Tuition of Youth, both at Home and in their Travels, and great Numbers of the young Nobility and Gentry being either sent Abroad directly from School, or taken away from the Universities before the Course of their Studies can be there compleated, and Opportunities frequently lost to the Crown of employing and encouraging Members of the two Universities, by conferring on them such Employments, both at Home and Abroad, as necessarily require a competent Skill in Writing and Speaking the Modern Languages. In order therefore to remedy these and the like Inconveniencies, we have determined to appoint two Persons of sober Conversation and prudent Conduct, of the Degree of Master of Arts or Batchelour of Laws, or of some higher Degree in one of the said Universities, skilled in Modern History and in the Knowledge of Modern Languages, to be nominated by us, to be our Professors of Modern History, one for the University of Cambridge and the other for that of Oxford, who shall be obliged to read Lectures in the publick Schools, at such Times as shall hereafter be appointed. And we have further determined, that each of the said Professors shall have a Stipend of Four Hundred Pounds per Annum, and out of the said Stipend shall be obliged to maintain with sufficient Salaries, in the University where he shall be established, two Persons at least, well qualified to teach and instruct in Writing and Speaking the said Languages, which said Teachers shall be under the Direction of the Professors respectively, and shall be obliged to instruct Gratis in the Modern Languages Twenty Scholars of each University, to be nominated by us; and each Scholar so nominated, shall be obliged to learn two at least of the said Languages, both the Professors and Teachers taking especial Care that the Times and Hours for the instructing and teaching the said Scholars, be so ordered, as not to interfere with those appointed for their Academical Studies; which Professors and Teachers shall be obliged once every Year to transmit an attested Account of the Progress made by each Scholar committed to their Care, to our Principal Secretaries of State, to be laid before us, that we may encourage the Diligence and Application of such amongst them, as shall have qualified themselves for our Service, by giving them suitable Employments either at Home or Abroad, as Occasions shall offer. And our Royal Will and Pleasure is, that you forthwith upon the Receipt hereof call a Congregation, in order to communicate these our Royal Intentions to the University. And so we bid you farewell. Given at our Court at St. James's the 16th Day of May 1724, in the Tenth Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,
TOWNSHEND.

St. James's, May 23. The following Address of the Chancellour Masters and Scholars of the University of Cambridge, was this Day presented to His Majesty, by the Reverend Dr. Snape Provost of King's College Vice-Chancellour of that University, attended by the Proctors and several other Members of the same; introduced by his Grace the Duke of Grafton Lord Chamberlain of his Majesty's Household.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty,

The humble Address of the Chancellour, Masters and Scholars of the University of Cambridge.

Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal Subjects, the Chancellour, Masters and Scholars of your University of Cambridge, having been honoured with your Majesty's Royal Letter, which has been read to us in full Senate, intimating your Gracious and Princely Intentions of Establishing, both in this and your other University, a new Professorship of Modern History and Modern Languages, with an Appointment so ample, as well nigh to equal the Stipends of all our other Professors put together; beg Leave to approach your Sacred Person with the sincerest Assurances of Duty, Loyalty and Gratitude which such unparallelled Munificence requires.

Your Majesty, like a common Father that is watchful for the Welfare of his Children, has wisely observed where our greatest Defect lay, and where your Relief could most seasonably be applied; we have for many Years, with Grief, observed, and may now, with Assurance, venture to speak out our Grievance, since your Majesty has been pleased to enter so far into our Cause, as to join in the same Complaint, that foreign Tutors have had so large a Share in the Education of our Youth of Quality, both at Home and in their Travels: And we are thoroughly sensible, that the Reason why they have been so employed, in Preference to Men of far superiour Learning of our own Country, has been the Want of proper Helps towards the attaining those Accomplishments in our Universities, for which your Majesty is now making so honourable a Provision. But we are now firmly perswaded, that when your Majesty's noble Design shall have taken Effect; when there shall be a sufficient Number of Academical Persons well versed in the Knowledge of foreign Courts, and well instructed in their respective Languages; when a Familiarity with the living Tongues shall be superadded to that of the dead ones; when the solid Learning of Antiquity shall be adorned and set off with a skilful Habit of conversing in the Languages that now flourish, and both be accompanied with English Probity; our Nobility and Gentry will be under no Temptation of sending for Persons from foreign Countries to be entrusted with the Education of their Children; that the Appearance of an English Gentleman in the Courts of Europe, with a Governour of his own Nation, will not be so rare and uncommon as it has hitherto been; and that your two Universities thus refined, and made more compleatly serviceable to the Education of Youth, by your Majesty's most judicious and well directed as well as liberal Benefaction, will be able to furnish you with a constant Supply of Persons every way qualified for the Management of such weighty Affairs and Negotiations, as your Majesty's Occasions may require.

We most heartily beseech the Almighty to prosper this, and all your great and glorious Undertakings, that you may long live and reign, till you have received the fullest Conviction that your Royal Purpose has not been frustrated, but that this new Institution has proved (as your Princely Wisdom intended it should) a Real and National Blessing.

Permit us further, most Gracious Sovereign, to testify our grateful Sense of two other distinguishing Marks of your Royal Favour so lately conferred on your two Universities: The Charging your Revenue with new Salaries appropriated to Twelve Persons chosen out of each, as Preachers in your Chapel of Whitehall; and your generous Resolution of Entitling to a Share of such Benefices